



LAW OFFICES OF
SYNNESTVEDT & LECHNER LLP
2600 ARAMARK TOWER
1101 MARKET STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107-2950
TELEPHONE (215) 923-4466
FACSIMILE (215) 923-2189
E-MAIL synnlech@synnlech.com
www.synnlech.com

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BOX AF

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP: 3738

July 23, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re\ Application of: E. Skott Greenhalgh

Appln. No.: 09/998,878 Examiner: T. Barrett

Filed: October 31, 2001 Group Art Unit: 3738

For: LEAK AND TEAR RESISTANT GRAFTS

(Atty. Docket No. 24463-A USA)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop AF, P. O. Box 1450. Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 23, 2004.

Dawn M. Larsen
Dawn M. Larsen

RESPONSE TO THE FINAL OFFICE ACTION
DATED FEBRUARY 2, 2004
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.116

Commissioner for Patents
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P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JUL 29 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated February 3, 2004, please amend the application as follows.

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Small Entity)

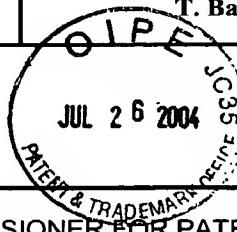
Applicant(s): Greenhalgh

Docket No.

24463-A USA

Serial No.
09/998,878Filing Date
October 31, 2001Examiner
T. BarrettGroup Art Unit
3738

Invention: LEAK AND TEAR RESISTANT GRAFTS



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TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- Small Entity status of this application has been established under 37 CFR 1.27 by a verified statement previously submitted.
- A verified statement to establish Small Entity status under 37 CFR 1.27 is enclosed.

The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED

| | CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT | HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR | NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT | RATE | ADDITIONAL FEE |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| TOTAL CLAIMS | 16 - | 30 = | 0 | x \$9.00 | \$0.00 |
| INDEP. CLAIMS | 1 - | 3 = | 0 | x \$43.00 | \$0.00 |
| Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT | | | | | \$0.00 |

- No additional fee is required for amendment.
- Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____.
- A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. _____.
- Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.
- Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

John A. Chionchio
Signature

Dated: July 23, 2004

John A. Chionchio, Reg. No. 40,954
Synnestvedt & Lechner LLP
1101 Market Street, Suite 2600
Philadelphia, PA 19107-2950

Telephone: 215-923-4466
Facsimile: 215-923-2189

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Dawn M. Larsen
Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

Dawn M. Larsen
Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

CC:

SYNNESTVEDT & LECHNER LLP

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE
ACTION DATED FEBRUARY 3, 2004

Appln. No. 09/998,878

- 2 -

July 23, 2004

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.